

Mrs. Roosevelt Renews Fire at Dies Committee

Gets Humanitarians' Prize; Brands Soviet Bombing of Finns as 'Terrible'

Special to the Herald Tribune
PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 4.—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt renewed her criticism of the House committee investigating un-American activities tonight in an address in which she accepted the \$1,000 annual award of the Humanitarians.

"I doubt very much," she told 1,000 guests at a dinner in the Benjamin Franklin Hotel, "whether putting aside and trying to decide whether this group or that group is 'dangerous' is going to help solve the problems facing the country."

Speaking of her attendance at a recent session of the committee, headed by Representative Martin Dies, Democrat, of Texas, at which the American Youth Congress was being investigated, Mrs. Roosevelt remarked: "As the young people were telling of the problems that face them, that they are trying to overcome, I watched the faces of the committee members. They listened, they were courteous, those men, but I wondered if they appreciated just what youth's problems are."

Presentation of the \$1,000 check and of one for \$2,000 to Dr. Rufus M. Jones, in his capacity as head of the American Friends Service Committee, came at the end of Mrs. Roosevelt's second visit to Philadelphia in recent weeks. Mrs. Roosevelt turned her check over to Dr. Jones for use by the committee.

She was met at the station by Mrs. J. Alexander Kline, chairman of the Humanitarians, and Mr. and Mrs. Curtin Winsor and their son, William Donner Roosevelt. The young trio—Mrs. Winsor was the former Mrs. Elliott Roosevelt—accompanied Mrs. Roosevelt to the hotel and later were her hosts for the night at their home.

Condemns Soviet Bombings

From the Herald Tribune Bureau

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt publicly joined her husband today in condemning Soviet Russia's bombing of civilians in Finland. "It is a terrible thing," she said, adding that she wished people "could become more civilized." The Finland invasion, she repeated, presents "a very sad situation."

Mrs. Roosevelt's remarks came during the course of a press conference at the White House.

Mrs. Roosevelt also explained the "safeguard" she had used to protect herself from being "duped" by the American Youth Congress. Replying to a suggestion that the congress had led her into thinking it was not Communist, Mrs. Roosevelt launched into a detailed description of the investigation she had made of the group.

"I know a great many of the young people working as officers of the American Youth Congress, or

working with the officers," she said. "I know a great many of the young people who belong. I have read all the literature passed in every congress except the first.

"I have watched with great care all the programs of work as proposed and as carried out. While I do not always agree with them, I find nothing which indicates any outside control. I find nothing in their scope of action which any American citizen cannot take with propriety.

"I have gone over all their financial reports. I know who contributes, and how the very limited budget is spent. What else can one do to safeguard one's self from being duped?"